

Levite, Alexandra

From: noreply+feedproxy@google.com on behalf of Modern Russia
<distromodernrussia@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 21, 2011 7:20 AM
To: Levite, Alexandra
Subject: ModernRussia Update

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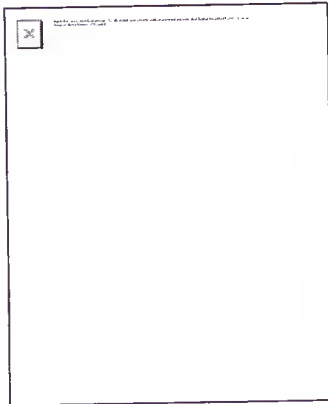
ModernRussia Update



VTB on Russia WTO accession

Posted: 20 Dec 2011 02:11 PM PST

On November 10, the Working Party on Russia's WTO membership agreed on the terms of Russia's accession, releasing a report summarizing the details of the agreement. The next step is formal approval by the Ministerial Conference on December 15-17 and ratification by Russia before June 15 2012.



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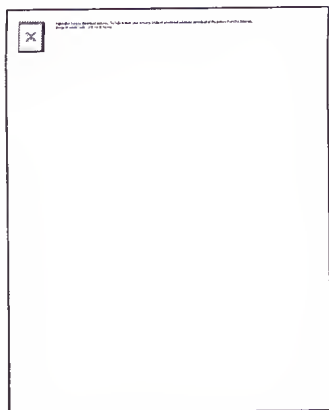


James Turley's comments on Russia's WTO Accession

Posted: 20 Dec 2011 09:16 AM PST

After almost 19 years – and after almost as many fits and starts during the long negotiation process – Russia, the

world's 11th largest economy has finally joined the World Trade Organization. The WTO's Ministerial Conference taking place in Geneva, Switzerland last weekend made it official.



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ModernRussia Update



TheCityUK discusses doing business in Russia

Posted: 21 Dec 2011 02:26 PM PST

UK firms are now paying more attention to Russia. Exports were up over 50 percent in 2010 compared to 2009, and in this current year are up an amazing 80 percent over last year already. The opportunities for doing business in Russia today come from the need to create a modern, stable and diverse economy. Firms who wish to build long term relations with Russian business partners can do very well, as long as their proposition is based on quality of service, reliability of design and delivery, and is supported by innovation.

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Ahead of Sochi, Russia Olympics, Britain, Russia sign MoU

Posted: 21 Dec 2011 02:21 PM PST

Ahead of the London 2012 Olympic Games and Sochi 2014 Olympic Winter Games both the British and Russian National Olympic Committees have a great responsibility to the Olympic Movement upon their shoulders.

In October, I led the British Olympic Association (BOA) to Moscow to sign a strategic partnership agreement with our counterparts at the Russian Olympic Committee. The signing ceremony took place at the White House where I was joined by ROC President Alexander Zhukov, the ROC vice president, and Andy Hunt Team GB Chef de Mission for London 2012.

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ModernRussia Update



Russia in WTO: Foreign officials, analysts and businesses react

Posted: 19 Dec 2011 01:59 PM PST

With Russia in WTO talks for almost two decades, prospects at times looked bleak, but on December 16, 2011, Russia was formally invited to join the organization at a ministerial conference in Geneva. While the State Duma still needs to formally ratify the decision, the event is a milestone for both Russia and the world trade system, marking the entry of the world's sixth largest economy into the most important global trading club.

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Austria, Kristine

Subject: Russia at APEC: Unofficial translation of Medvedev press briefing
Attachments: Russia at APEC_Unofficial translation of Medvedev press briefing.docx

-----Original Message-----

From: Kotova, Anya [<mailto:Anya.Kotova@ketchum.com>]
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2011 3:10 AM
To: Kotova, Anya
Subject: Russia at APEC: Unofficial translation of Medvedev press briefing

Attached and below please find unofficial translations of key quotes from President Medvedev's remarks earlier today during a briefing with journalists at APEC 2011.

Best,

Anya Kotova
Ketchum
1.347.366.2445

On preparation for APEC 2012:
Our plans for APEC 2012 had a dual purpose. First, to host the summit, and in that respect everything is going well. Everything will be ready. That's the task for 2012. However, our other goal is that Vladivostok becomes a different city and gains those structures that it either never had or have deteriorated over the past ten years. Thus, in terms of budget, funds allocated for developing Vladivostok are substantially larger than for the summit itself. The budget for the summit is approximately 5 billion rubles, while the budget for reconstruction of Vladivostok is much larger. From the beginning, we were operating under the belief that we need to spend this money to improve the quality of life in Vladivostok and Primorski Krai. I'd like to remind you that hosting different summits has historically been a way for countries to develop territories that have fallen into decline. We chose to pursue the same strategy. I think that was not in vain because Vladivostok will gain a university, new roads, communications systems and infrastructure that will serve it for a long time as a result of hosting the summit. In this sense, hosting the summit is very useful as it also deals with the future of the city.

On Russia's priorities for APEC 2012:
Our priorities are clear. We will promote infrastructure projects, energy, food security and intellectual property. In general, we will do what think is appropriate, taking into account Russia's geopolitical position.

On Russia's role in Asia:
Vladivostok was not chosen as the host city by accident. The selection demonstrates that Russia has two poles – east and west.

On the bilateral meeting with President Obama:
I am pleased with negotiations with President Obama this year, as well as last year and during the entirety of our three-year relationship. We have reached agreements that we are not ashamed to talk about, including WTO and START and a variety of other questions that are beneficial to us and to the world. In regard to the European missile defense system, the situation is much more difficult. Unfortunately, there are no agreements now and we do not quite understand what our partners are offering us. I think that in the nearest future Russia will work out a reaction to all the problems linked to the U.S. missile defense in Europe. I already gave my assessments and I think that in the nearest future we will need to give an expanded assessment of how Russia will react to the developments concerning missile defense, both currently and in 2015.

On benefits of joining WTO:
For the general public, accession to the WTO means that Russia is entering a club of modern, effective economies and the competitiveness of our companies will improve as a result.

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*Materials disseminated by Ketchum Inc. on behalf of the Russian Federation. Additional information regarding the dissemination of these materials can be obtained at the Department of Justice.

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